[English]

Accountability Of Bureaucrats

6731. SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to make the bureaucrats accountable for their actions / role in the formulation of the Government policy and execution thereof; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) and (b). Accountability of bureaucrats for their actions / role in the formulation of Government policy and execution thereof is built into the relevant laws, rules and regulations including the conduct and discipline rules governing the various services. As part of the detailed plan of action for implementation of Point 20 of the 20-point Programme, 1986, steps have already been taken to enforce accountability more effectively. These include.

Preparation of action plans and monitoring the implementation of the these plans on monthly/quarterly basis.

Fixation of levels for taking decision on various categories of cases and the channel of their submission.

Revision of the format of the annual confidential report to provide for objective appraisal of the officer reported upon.

Promotion Of foreign Investment

6732. SHRI YELLAIAH NANDI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have proposed to constitute "a Board for promoting foreign investment"; if so, the details of the Scheme with its objectives;

(b) whether the Board has formulated the criteria for identifying potential areas where foreign investment is required; if so, the details thereof;

(c) the general policy of the Government towards the companies with less than 40 per cent foreign equity and those with more than 51 per cent foreign equity; and

(d) the areas opened to the companies with more than 51 per cent foreign equity?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): (a) to (d). The policy on foreign investment has been enunciated in paras 24, 25, 26 and 39 of the Statement of Industrial Policy tabled in both the Houses of Parliament on 24th July, 1991.

In pursuance of para 39 B (v) of the Statement, Government have constituted a Foreign Investment Promotion Board. The objective of the Board is to invite and facilitate investment in India by international companies in projects which are considered to be of benefit to the Indian economy and do not fall within the parameters of the existing policy for clearance of foreign investment proposals. The functions of the Board include inter alia establishment of contact with and inviting selected international companies to invest in India in appropriate ventures. The programme of investment would include activities such as manufacturing; marketing, designing and export promotion; energy conservation; technological upgradation and modernisation; infrastructure development; better utilisation of raw materials and natural resources; substantial increase in employment.